



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 26, 2016

CM/ACM KS  
Finance DN  
DA SH  
Risk Mgmt N/A  
HR N/A  
Comptroller CH

**DATE:** July 1, 2016

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Dwayne Smith, P.E., Division Director, Engineering and Capital Projects  
Community Services Department, 328-2043, [desmith@washoecounty.us](mailto:desmith@washoecounty.us)

**THROUGH:** Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Director  
Community Services Department, 328-2040, [dsolaro@washoecounty.us](mailto:dsolaro@washoecounty.us)

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to enter into all necessary agreements and construction contracts for the development and implementation of the Panther Drive Emergency Sanitary Sewer Project [not to exceed \$600,000]. (Commission District 5.)

### SUMMARY

The Washoe County Health District, Environmental Health Services Division was contacted by a resident on Panther Drive regarding the possibility of raw sewage present in the area. Through investigation and testing, the Health District determined that untreated sewer flows from failed or failing residential septic systems were being expressed at the ground surface in the area. With this information, the Health District notified area residents and posted signs warning of the potential public health risk.

In response to a request by the Health District, the Community Services Department has developed a strategy to design and construct a municipal sewer solution which will allow the residents along Panther Drive to abandon their failed or failing individual septic systems and connect to municipal sewer. The strategy includes collaboration with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection as well as other state and local agencies and ultimately local licensed general contractors and plumbers. Since time is of the essence, staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) authorize the Director of the Community Service Department, the authority to enter into all necessary agreements and construction contracts necessary to develop and implement the Panther Drive Emergency Sanitary Sewer Project. Considering the risk to public health, a timely and comprehensive solution is required to eliminate the potential public health risk.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

There have been no previous actions.

AGENDA ITEM # 11

### **BACKGROUND**

Through Environmental Health Services investigations, including sampling and testing, it has been determined that pooling and ponding water in the area contain both E.Coli and Total Coliform counts, indicating that residential septic systems in the immediate area have failed or are in the process of failing. In response, the Health District notified residents along Panther Drive both by letter and also by posting signs along the street stating that a public health risk exists due to raw sewage being present and it is unsafe for human contact.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

At this time no General Fund, Washoe County Utility Fund or Capital Fund monies are anticipated to complete this project. The potential source of funding for the design of the project is Community Development Block Grant program income. Potential sources of funding for the construction and project management for the project include the AB54 Loan Program and the State of Nevada Revolving Fund Clean Water program. Should the need for additional funding arise that may affect the Washoe County General Fund, Washoe County Utility Fund or Capital Fund be identified during the project; staff will bring that request to the Board for consideration.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to enter into all necessary agreements and construction contracts for the development and implementation of the Panther Drive Emergency Sanitary Sewer Project [not to exceed \$600,000].

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to authorize the Director of the Community Services Department to enter into all necessary agreements and construction contracts for the development and implementation of the Panther Drive Emergency Sanitary Sewer Project [not to exceed \$600,000]."